

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1-24 are pending. Claims 1-20 are amended, and claims 21-24 are added. Claims 1 and 12 are independent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein.

Examiner Interview

If, during further examination of the present application, a discussion with Applicants' Representative would advance the prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Carl T. Thomsen, Registration No. 50,786, at 1-703-208-4030 (direct line) at his convenience.

Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the drawings, stating that "the phase differences and the rotation position of the antenna field must be shown or the feature(s) must be cancelled from the claim(s)". In response, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 12 to properly clarify the claimed subject matter. No changes to the drawings are believed to be required.

Claim for Priority

The Examiner has acknowledged the Applicants' claim for foreign priority.

Information Disclosure Citation

Applicants thank the Examiner for considering the reference supplied with the Information Disclosure Statements filed on June 14, 2005, and September 14, 2005, and for providing Applicants with initialed copies of the PTO forms filed therewith.

Claim Objections

The Examiner has objected to claims 1, 2, 12, and 13 because of several informalities. In order to overcome this objection, Applicants have amended claims 1, 2, 12, and 13 in order to correct the deficiencies pointed out by the Examiner. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested.

Objection to the Specification and the Abstract

In response to the Examiner's objections, and in accordance with MPEP § 608.01(q), Applicants herewith submit a substitute specification in the above-identified application. Also included is a marked-up copy of the original specification which shows the portions of the original specification which are being added and deleted. Applicants respectfully submit that the substitute specification includes no new matter and that the substitute specification includes the same changes as are indicated in the marked-up copy of the original specification showing additions and deletions.

Because the number of amendments which are being made to the original specification would render it difficult to consider the case, or to arrange the papers for printing or copying, Applicants have voluntarily submitted this substitute specification.

In addition, Applicants have revised the Abstract of the Disclosure on a separate page.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the substitute specification and the revised Abstract be entered into the application.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

Claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner has set forth certain instances wherein the claim language lacks antecedent basis or is not clearly understood.

In order to overcome this rejection, Applicants have amended claims 1, 4, 7, 8, 12, 14, 18, and 19 to correct each of the deficiencies specifically pointed out by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims, as amended, particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 103(a)

Claims 1-6 and 10-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hippelainen et al. (U.S. Patent 5,053,784); and

claims 7-9 and 18-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hippelainen et al. in view of Chethik (U.S. Patent 5,543,811).

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Amendments to Independent Claims 1 and 12

While not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance prosecution of the instant application, each of independent claims 1 and 12 has been amended herein to recite a combination of features, including *inter alia*

wherein one of the at least two antenna arrays of (11a, 11b) of the first passive antenna group (13) is disposed directly facing each of right and left lateral sides of one of the at least two antenna arrays (10b) of the second passive antenna group (12).

See FIGS. 1-3 for support.

By contrast, as can be seen in Hippelainen FIGS. 1-3, this document merely discloses upper long antennas 5 mounted on tips of a V-frame 3, and lower antennas 4 and 6 mounted on lower portions of the V-frame 3.

At least for the reasons explained above, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of features set forth in each of independent claims 1 and 12 is not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record, including Hippelainen and Chethik.

Therefore, independent claims 1 and 12 are in condition for allowance.

Dependent Claims

The Examiner will note that dependent claims 2-11 and 13-20 have been amended, and dependent claims 21-24 have been added to set forth additional novel features of the invention.

All dependent claims are in condition for allowance due to their dependency from allowable independent claims, or due to the additional novel features set forth therein.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 103(a) are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

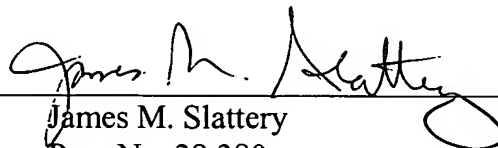
All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and that the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, he is invited to telephone Carl T. Thomsen (Reg. No. 50,786) at (703) 208-4030 (direct line).

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Date: April 16, 2008

Respectfully submitted,
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 
James M. Slattery
Reg. No. 28,380

P. O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

Attachment: Abstract of the Disclosure (Revised)
Substitute Specification